

*The National Academies of*  
**SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE**

**Division on Earth and Life Studies  
Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology**

March 14, 2022

Colette Hodes, Ph.D.  
Task Order Contracting Officer Representative (TOCOR)  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
2777 South Crystal Drive  
Bldg: Potomac Yard One (South Tower)  
Room No. S5927, Mail Code: 5305P  
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: February 2022 Progress Report,  
Consensus Report on Electric Arc Furnace Slag: Understanding Potential Human Health  
Risks from Unencapsulated Uses  
Contract #68HERC19D0011; PR-OLEM-21-00448/PR-R8-21-00379;  
Task Order #68HERC21F0257

Dear Dr. Hodes:

The above-mentioned committee held its first meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, which was held entirely in closed session. During the meeting, provisional members of the committee discussed these topics:

- National Academies study process;
- Committee's statement of task;
- Members' professional backgrounds and any potential sources of bias and conflicts of interest;
- Appropriateness of the committee composition for carrying out the statement of task;
- Public comments about the committee composition that were submitted during the 20-day public comment period; and
- Questions for EPA officials to clarify various aspects of the statement of task.

The committee held its second meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup>, which began with a closed session to continue the discussion of committee composition and balance. The meeting then shifted to an open session during which the committee heard presentations from, and had discussions with, EPA officials from OLEM and Region 8 about:

- Characteristics of EAF slag production in the United States;
- Beneficial uses of unencapsulated EAF slag;
- Known regulation of EAF slag;
- Work EPA had been doing on EAF slag in Pueblo, Colorado; and
- EPA's overall request regarding the committee's study.

The Academies responsible staff officer (RSO) and other project staff participated in a status meeting with the TOCOR on February 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss the kinds of materials EPA planned to provide to the committee to inform its deliberations. The TOCOR provided the first batch of materials to the RSO on February 25<sup>th</sup>. Project staff will provide the materials to the committee and list the items in the public access file for this project.

Project staff worked to prepare briefing materials for the committee members in advance of the meetings held on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. After each meeting, staff posted brief written summaries of the closed sessions onto the project website, which is accessible via this link: <https://www.nationalacademies.org/our-work/electric-arc-furnace-slag-understanding-human-health-risks-from-unencapsulated-uses> . A video recording of the open session that was held on February 7<sup>th</sup> is available via that link. Staff also surveyed members about their dates of availability for future committee meetings.

Project-related activities for March will include:


- Receiving a second batch of materials from EPA for the committee;
- Listing all of the materials received to date in the public access file;
- Meeting with the TOCOR on March 14<sup>th</sup> to discuss project status and information gathering; and
- Holding the next committee meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>, which will be held entirely in closed session. At the meeting, the committee will develop plans for carrying out its statement of task, including future meetings.

#### Financial information for February 2022

Cost Category	Expenditures (\$)
Labor Cost	<b>Ex. 4 CBI</b>
ODCs	
Overhead	
G&A	
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,392.32</b>

The total expenditures since inception are \$101,477.91. Attached are (1) a table of monthly labor costs, cumulative labor costs, total monthly expenditures, cumulative total expenditures, and the percentage of the total potential award spent, and (2) figures showing a comparison of total funds spent and labor costs, cumulative funds spent by activity (excluding labor), and cumulative hours worked by staff.

Sincerely,



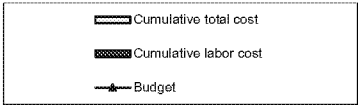
Raymond Wassel  
Responsible Staff Officer

cc: Andrea Dehne, (CO) U.S. EPA  
Timothy Taylor (Alt. TOCOR) U.S. EPA  
Jorge Rangel (CL COR) U.S. EPA  
Laura Llanos, National Academies  
Lavonne Burgess, National Academies  
Tasha Seabron, National Academies  
Russell Walker, National Academies

EPA Electric Arc Furnace Slag  
Sponsor Award # 68HERC19D0011/68HERC21F0257  
Progress Report, February 1, 2022 thru February 28, 2022  
Total Dollars Spent (Thousand)

**Ex. 4 CBI**

921.05



EPA Electric Arc Furnace Slag  
Sponsor Award #68HERC19D0011/686HERC21F0257  
Progress Report, February 1, 2022 thru February 28, 2022  
Comparison of Total Funds Spent and Labor Cost

Dollars (thousands)

Ex. 4 CBI

Monthly

EPA Electric Arc Furnace Slag  
Sponsor Award # 68HERC19D0011/686HERC21F0257  
Progress Report, February 1, 2022 thru February 28, 2022  
Cumulative Funds Spent by Task (Excluding Labor)

Dollars spent

**Ex. 4 CBI**

※ Funds Spent this Period   ※ Total funds spent to date

Task

Hours

**Ex. 4 CBI**